

in colour, and had very long hind legs, which they lifted and waved whenever an ant saluted them. The ants treated them with great care, saluting them with rapid jerks of the body, as they do other ants, and never allowing them to wander about unattended. These two Aphides lived in my nest of *L. niger*, where they were received with great excitement, for some weeks. I never saw the ants feed them, and there was no vegetation of any kind in the nest. Occasionally an aphid wandered outside the nest, and was eventually carried back again by its attendant ant. On September 4th, there was a young aphid in the nest, and the next day another. On September 7th, a third one was born. All three young ones were together in a corner of the nest, and an ant with them. On August 16th, 1896, I found sixteen of these aphides in a nest of *L. Niger*, three of which I sent to Sir John Lubbock, and the remainder I put in my nest of *L. Niger*. I made a note that twelve of these were alive and well in the nest on August 19th.

Next year, April 24th, I procured several of the common species of aphid, found in nests of *L. niger*, and gave them to my nest of the same species, but the ants took little notice of them, and did not carry them inside. On July 30th, 1897, I found a full-grown aphid of the strange species, and put it outside my nest. The ants carried it inside immediately. These aphides were all found in two nests of *L. niger* only, about eight miles from Oxford. This aphid would be *Paraclotus cimiciformis*, C. Heyd.

### **Tachyporus fasciatus, n.sp., a species of Coleoptera new to Science.**

By G. W. NICHOLSON, M.A., M.D., F.E.S.

Broad, shining, reddish-testaceous, with the head, breast, the sides and a broad band at base of elytra, and hindbody black. Head and thorax exceedingly finely punctured. Antennæ long and fine, not thickened towards apex, with base testaceous, darker towards apex, penultimate joints longer than broad, 11th joint half as long again as 10th. Elytra longer than thorax, with disk reddish, side margins to just before apex broadly black; a slightly zig-zag and not very well defined broad band occupying nearly the basal half of elytra black; where this band joins the marginal black bands it is narrowest, so that here the reddish colour of the disk of elytra extends to nearly the base on each side as a tongue-like projection; very finely and closely punctured, the punctures bearing a rather obvious black pubescence; marginal bristles stout and long. Hind-body black, with the apical margins of segments testaceous, finely and closely punctured. Mouth parts and legs testaceous. L.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mm.

This insect in size and shape most closely resembles *T. solutus*, Er., but differs from it in the following particulars:—The punctuation of the head, thorax, elytra, and especially of the hindbody is much finer. The antennæ, although of the same length, have their penultimate joints considerably narrower. The 11th joint is only half as long again as the 10th, whereas in *T. solutus* it is nearly twice as long. The elytra, besides presenting the difference in colour, are more obviously pubescent and their marginal bristles are stout and long, whereas in *T. solutus* they are short and fine. From *T. chrysomelinus*, L., it differs by its broader form, by the colour of the elytra and by the punctuation, which is distinctly closer and deeper, and by the greater length of the antennæ, whose penultimate joints are not quadrate or slightly transverse, as in the latter species. The marginal bristles of the elytra are even stouter and longer than in *T. chrysomelinus*.